

Message Text

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64

ACTION ARA-10

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TAGS: SNAR VE

SUBJ: SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT ON NARCOTICS CONTROL

REF: STATE 119669

THE EMBASSY'S SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT ON NARCOTICS CONTROL ACTIVITIES
DURING THE PERIOD JAN 1- JUNE 30, 1975 FOLLOWS.

COUNTRY: VENEZUELA

A. HIGHLIGHTS OF SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENTS DURING REPORTING PERIOD

1. THE NARCOTICS CONTROL DIVISION OF THE TECHNICAL JUDICIAL
POLICE (PTJ) WAS REORGANIZED NATIONALLY IN MARCH. ALTHOUGH
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NEW ORGANIZATIONAL PLAN HAS BEEN SLOW IN
THE FIRST STAGES, MORE EFFECTIVE NARCOTICS ENFORCEMENT BY THE PTJ
IS EXPECTED IN THE MONTHS AHEAD. THE REORGANIZATION OF THE
NARCOTICS CONTROL DIVISION WAS BASED IN LARGE MEASURE ON A PROPOSAL
PRESENTED TO THE PTJ BY A TEAM FROM THE DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINIS-
TRATION IN EARLY FY 1975.

2. ON TWO OCCASIONS DURING THE REPORTING PERIOD THE VENEZUELAN
GOVT WAS INFORMALLY APPROACHED CONCERNING AN INCREASE IN
PERMANENTLY ASSIGNED PERSONNEL TO THE CARACAS DEA REGIONAL OFFICE.
THESE DEMARCHES RESULTED IN INDICATIONS THAT A FORMAL REQUEST FOR
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THE INCREASE WOULD NOT BE APPROPRIATE DURING THIS PERIOD. THE GOV

EXPRESSED A FEAR THAT THE SIZE OF THE DEA OFFICE MIGHT BE MISINTERPRETED BY OPPOSITION POLITICAL GROUPS. ALSO THERE APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN A LACK OF COORDINATION BETWEEN THE PTJ AND GOV MINISTRIES CONCERNING THE NEED FOR ADDITIONAL DEA PERSONNEL.

B. STATUS OF AGREEMENTS DURING REPORTING PERIOD

THERE WERE NO ASSISTANCE AGREEMENTS MADE WITH THE VENEZUELAN GOVT UNDER THE NARCOTICS APPROPRIATION OF THE FOREIGN ASSISTANCE ACT DURING THE REPORTING PERIOD.

C. TOTAL OBLIGATIONS AND EXPENDITURES DURING REPORTING PERIOD

TOTAL OBLIGATIONS AND EXPENDITURES AMOUNTED TO \$14,500. THIS AMOUNT INCLUDED \$14,500 FOR PERSONNEL AND \$0.00 FOR TRAINING (NOT CENTRALLY FUNDED).

D. TYPES, QUANTITY AND COST OF EQUIPMENT DELIVERED DURING REPORTING PERIOD

THERE WERE NO NEW OBLIGATIONS OR PROVISIONS OF EQUIPMENT TO THE GOV.

E. TYPES, QUANTITY AND COST OF EQUIPMENT IN PIPELINE

THERE IS NO EQUIPMENT FOR THE GOV IN THE PIPELINE.

F. OTHER SUPPORT COSTS NOT DIRECTLY ATTRIBUTABLE TO SPECIFIC AGREEMENTS

SUPPORT COSTS WERE \$1,100.

G. NUMBER AND TYPE OF PEOPLE TRAINED

1. DURING THE REPORTING PERIOD A US CUSTOMS TEAM CONDUCTED IN-COUNTRY TRAINING CONSISTING OF 80 HOURS' INSTRUCTION IN NARCOTICS IDENTIFICATION AND INTERDICTION AND 40 HOURS IN INSTRUCTOR METHODS. THOSE RECEIVING TRAINING INCLUDED:

NINE NATIONAL GUARD OFFICERS ASSIGNED TO CUSTOMS DUTIES;
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ONE NATIONAL GUARD OFFICER ASSIGNED TO THE OFFICE OF POLICE COORDINATION AT THE MINISTRY OF INTERIOR;
TWENTY CUSTOMS SERVICE OFFICIALS (INCLUDING TWO CHEMISTS AND FIVE LAWYERS); AND
TWO POLICE INSTRUCTORS FROM THE METROPOLITAN POLICE ACADEMY.

2. THE EMBASSY'S NARCOTICS ADVISOR HELPED PLAN AND PROVIDED SUPPORT TO A 40-HOUR NARCOTICS ENFORCEMENT COURSE FOR 200

NATIONAL GUARD SERGEANTS.

3. THE FOLLOWING PARTICIPATED IN TRAINING IN THE US.

ONE PTJ CHEMIST AT A DEA FORENSIC CHEMISTS SEMINAR;
ONE OFFICIAL FROM THE INTERMINISTERIAL COMMISSION AGAINST
DRUG ABUSE AT A SAODAP DRUG ABUSE SEMINAR; AND
ONE NATIONAL GUARD OFFICER AND TWO CUSTOMS SERVICE
INSPECTORS IN A 5-WEEK MID-MANAGEMENT TRAINING COURSE
WITH US CUSTOMS..
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